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FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION • UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

June 16, 1945 No. 115

AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS. . . . June 8, the Senate received the nomination of J. D. Hutson to be Undersecretary of Agriculture; the House passed the War Agencies appropriation bill, which provides for reductions in the items for surplus property disposal and the WPB lumber program. June 11, the Senate passed the price control and stabilization extension bill; the Senate Finance Committee reported the trade agreements extension bill; the Senate Foreign Relations Committee reported a bill providing for United States membership in the Food and Agriculture Organization; the House received the President's appropriation estimate for Lend-lease. June 12, the President approved a bill continuing appropriations for loans and grants to farmers whose property has been damaged by floods. June 13, the House passed the Federal pay bill and received the President's supplemental appropriation estimate for Extension work; the Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported a bill making various amendments to farm credit laws; June 14, the House passed a measure making recisions in various 1945 appropriations including two million dollars of the item for WFA salaries and expenses; both Houses agreed to a conference report on a bill continuing RFC subsidies on meat, flour, and butter (this bill will now be sent to the President). The Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported favorably the nomination of Claude R. Wickard to be REA Administrator.

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SECRETARY WICKARD MADE HONORARY MEMBER OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS. . . . For his contributions to agricultural engineering as a farmer and as Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Wickard was presented honorary membership in the American Society of Agricultural Engineers at the regular meeting of the Washington chapter on June 14, In the 37-year history of this national engineering group only 14 honorary memberships have been granted. Presentation was made by R. W. Trullinger of USDA, a past president of the society and one-time winner of the John Deere medal for outstanding achievement in the field of agricultural engineering.

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THE EUROPEAN FOOD SITUATION. . . . Frances Flood, Assistant Director of OFAR, reported today on his recent trip to Europe on The Country Journal show (CBS) at 9:30 a.m. Mr. Flood found the food situation worse in France than in the other countries he visited, including England, Germany, Holland, and Belgium. Although a relatively large amount of food is being produced in England, he says about 10 percent less food will be produced in Europe this year than last, or about 25 percent less than normal. The main difficulty is the lack of farm labor, machinery, equipment, fertilizer, and proper transportation facilities.

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WFA TO CONTINUE COMMUNITY CANNING CENTERS. . . . The WFA has provided funds for continuing the community canning centers through the current canning season. The program will be carried out through State boards for vocational education and the local public schools as agreed upon by the Office of Education and the WFA. This program was started in 1942 under the direction of the U. S. Office of Education.

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SUGAR ALLOCATIONS. . . . The allocation of 1,872,346 tons of sugar for the third quarter of 1945 was announced June 13 by WFA (USDA 1093). The revised second quarter allocation of sugar was 1,824,725 tons. Despite this increase for the third quarter, U. S. civilian supplies will be about 10,000 tons less than in the second quarter, and will include amounts for home use, including home canning, and sugar used by commercial food processors, industrial and commercial users for civilian consumption. The third quarter allocation for civilians is less than that allotted for the same period last year--the peak period of seasonal sugar consumption.

Largely because of the severe drought in Cuba, its sugar crop is about 800,000 tons below 1944. This, added to distribution of sugar in excess of allocation early in 1945, and the need of liberated European countries for sugar, have depleted the international sugarbowl. A war food order has been issued to control the distribution of sugar for the second and third quarters of 1945, in order to limit the distribution of sugar to quantities allocated.

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FRUIT AND VEGETABLES FOR HOME CANNING. . . . Because of the expected shortage of certain fruits such as sour, red cherries, and apples, and lighter supplies of some of the other fruits, homemakers are advised to can whatever fruits they can find in more plentiful supply in local markets. The forecast is that total fruit production will equal that of last year, however, headed by plentiful peaches from the South, sweet cherries in the western areas, with good supplies of pears, plums, and apricots. Therefore, "can what you can" of both fruits and vegetables is the slogan for the thrifty housewife, since Army set-aside requirements for most canned vegetables of the 1945 pack will probably be increased. For this reason, vegetables from home gardens are needed more than ever this year for canning purposes.

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ARMY COOPERATES WITH WFA IN POULTRY PROCUREMENT. . . . To increase the effectiveness of WFO 119 (poultry set-aside), uniformed personnel of the War Department will cooperate with the WFA by requisitioning poultry at highway check posts established by WFA in Delaware, certain counties in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Georgia, Arkansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma. This action by the War Department was taken in an effort to prevent diversion of poultry needed for the armed forces. A recent survey indicated that some poultry which should have gone to the Army had been trucked to other outlets, including the black market.

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FCI CONSIDERED FOR CITRUS GROWERS. . . . Representative citrus growers and FCIC officials met in Washington last week to discuss plans for extending insurance to citrus fruits in 1946 on a trial basis. This crop is one of three that is under consideration for trial insurance next year. The representatives will discuss the results of the Washington meetings with committees in Arizona, California, Florida, and Texas--the four citrus-producing areas.

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FARM SAFETY POSTER UNDER WAY. . . . A poster on farm safety is under way which should be available well ahead of Farm Safety Week--July 22-28. It will be in full color, size 18-3/8 x 26 inches; the catch lines are "Watch Out for Fire, Livestock, Machinery--Farm Safely." Distribution will be made through usual Department channels.

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FARM MACHINERY DEVELOPMENTS will be discussed by Arthur Turner of BPI June 23 on the Country Journal show.

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DEADLINES FOR WINTER WHEAT INSURANCE. . . . The deadline for applications for insurance on the winter wheat crop will be either the beginning date of seeding of the crop or the following calendar date, whichever is earlier: August 31--for Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, N. Dakota, Oklahoma, S. Dakota, Texas, Utah and Wyoming; September 15--for Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin; September 30--for California, Delaware, Idaho, Kentucky, Maryland, N. Carolina, Oregon, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington, and W. Virginia.

"Sales promotion" material is currently being explained to Triple-A field men and State committeemen at meetings in States selling insurance on this crop.

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COUNTRY GENT LAUNCHES EMERGENCY FARM-HELP CAMPAIGN. . . . The Country Gentleman, working with the U. S. Extension Service, has prepared a series of advertisements for use in its campaign to help enlist emergency farm workers this year. The advertisements will be furnished newspapers in communities best able to supply recruits to critical areas during the heavy harvest periods. The cooperation of local publishers, county agents and farm-employment offices is also being secured in the campaign, which will last through October.

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USDA RELEASES OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE. . . . Progress report on crop insurance--1063; 1945 price support program for dry edible peas--1069; Wartime cotton developments to find peacetime uses--1073; 1945 support price for cottonseed--1078; Third quarter sugar allocations--1093; WFA issues corn control order--1104.

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OTHER RELEASES OF AGRICULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE. . . . No increase in corn ceilings--OPA-5666; Manufacturers' ceilings on glass containers to West Coast food packers raised--OPA-T-3309; OPA to provide housewives with bulletins showing ceiling prices of meats--OPA-5647; Higher prices for cantaloups and melons may continue until July 8--OPA-5652; Temporary measure taken by OPA to increase supplies of meat in shortage areas--OPA-5653; Method established for computing maximum prices for custom slaughtering--OPA-T-3325; Changes affecting eligibility of several groups of persons for gasoline rations--OPA-5650.

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CONSUMER TIME LISTENERS on June 23 will hear timely hints on smart shopping in wartime. Advice on shopping for linens, furniture, fruits and vegetables, and items particularly hard to find in wartime will be given the "shoplorn" in a question and answer forum. The June issue of Consumer's Guide, which contains the article "New Buyers Come to Market," will be offered listeners. On June 30, the show will be on home safety--preventing accidents in the home, etc.

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A BOOST TO FOOD PRESERVATION. . . . The newspaper Army Times in its issue for the week of June 13 ran a Civilian Front edition which carried a full page promoting Home Food Production and Preservation. This paper has a circulation of some 20,000, mostly to county and community leaders of the Nation.

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HOME CANNING KITS POPULAR. . . . To take care of the increased demand for the WFA home canning kit this year, 8,000 more were recently prepared for redistribution. The original distribution totaled 10,500.

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SUGAR DISTRIBUTION. . . . WFO 131, issued June 13, 1945, by the WFA controls distribution of sugar by cane sugar refiners, beet sugar processors, importers of direct-consumption sugar, and mainland direct-consumption cane sugar producers. The order limits sugar distribution to the quantities allocated during the periods of shortest supply and maximum demand. Distribution quotas for primary distributors of sugar will be fixed by the Director of Marketing Services, and sugar for civilian use will be distributed according to OPA rationing regulations. Distribution quotas for primary distributors of sugar were announced in WFO 131.1, for the period April 1 to September 30, 1945. Under the order each distributor has a separate quota for sales to: WFA; Government agencies, other than WFA and WSA; authorized purchasers; and U. S. civilians.

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COTTON FOR CIVILIANS. . . . Military needs for cotton cloth for uniforms and other kinds of clothing for servicemen, hospitals supplies, tents and other military equipment is the reason for the shortage of towels, sheets, and cotton yard goods for civilians. Available labor and machinery in mills are kept busy turning out sufficient quantities of manufactured cottons for war and the more essential civilian uses. Then, too, an increasing number of cotton bags are being used for agricultural products such as root vegetables, flour, and cereal grains, and for fertilizer and seeds, in place of the scarcer paper or burlap bags.

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FARM SAFETY WEEK PLATTER CUT. . . . A Timely Farm Topics platter was recently completed by National Safety Council and USDA for use during National Farm Safety Week--July 22-28. "Taylor-made Safety," the subject dramatized on one side of the record, concerns accident prevention in the farm home. "An Ounce of Prevention," on the other side, stresses safety precautions on the farm. John H. Wetzel, Chairman of USDA's Farm Safety Council, will make spot announcements before and after each broadcast.

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CORN CONTROL ORDER. . . . An order (WFO No. 132) restricting the distribution or use of corn for the manufacture of alcohol or for export has been issued by the War Food Administration. It becomes effective at 12:01 a.m. (EWT) today. WFA officials say that while there is a substantial volume of corn in the country it is not moving to market in quantity. The distribution and use order is designed to protect supplies for the more essential feed and processing uses.

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THE MOVIE "QUERER ES PODER," meaning "Where There's a Will There's a Way," has been completed and will be released in July for special distribution in Puerto Rico. Dealing with the problem of malnutrition, the film suggests means for improving the diet and the health of the islanders. It is a 2-reel, 16 mm., Kodachrome film.

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CONTROLLING INSECTS IN FLOUR MILLS is a recent USDA publication containing 75 pages of detailed information. Ask for Circular No. 720.

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